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This Republic
was not estab-
lished by cowards,
and cowards will
not preserve it.
— Elmer Davis

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"INCORPORATING THE WATERGATE REVIEW"

JUNE 1978

EDITORIAL: The Umbrella Man - Wasn't That a Novel Idea?

FROM THE EDITOR:

This issue, we think you'll agree, is just a little bit different from the previous ones. The biggest difference is that we are featuring photographs for the first time. Thanks to Jack White of Fort Worth, Texas, and always to Penn Jones, Jr., of Midlothian, Texas, we are featuring a two-page photo layout on the "Umbrella Man" and his accomplice, whom Jack White refers to as "The Cuban". Well, we aren't so sure of his national or ethnic origin, but he is rather dark-complexioned. And one thing is for certain: both of those characters are members of the Dealey Plaza assassination squad, and TUM is in fact one of John F. Kennedy's assassins. Most likely he is the one who made it possible for the others, firing after him, to hit their mark. The photo layout has appeared previously in Penn Jones' monthly, THE CONTINUING INQUIRY (Box 1140, Midlothian, TX 76065), and in the British monthly JFK ASSASSINATION FORUM, edited and published by Harry Irwin (32 Ravensdene Crescent, Ravenhill, Belfast BT6 0DB, IRELAND). So some of you have seen it before, but many of you haven't, and we thought it was important enough to warrant another printing. We suggest after reading and looking over the photo feature, you check out an article in the June issue of Gallery magazine, "The Umbrella System - Prelude to an Assassination?" by Richard E. Sprague and Robert Cutler. It is an excellent primer on the subject and required reading. After that, you will find Cutler's two books on that topic, THE UMBRELLA MAN, and his newest, 76 SECONDS IN DEALEY PLAZA, of much interest. Both are available from the author, Box 1465, Manchester, MA 01944.

We also want to thank all our new and renewed subscribers for their fantastic support. Local newspaper and TV coverage of THE GRASSY KNOLL GAZETTE also helped with subscriptions; the newspaper story was picked up by statewide AP, and thus ran in newspapers all over Virginia, and even appeared in the Washington Star. The story led to a local TV interview in which the editor had a brief opportunity to explain the nature of the Dallas coup d'etat to the viewers. The most significant aspect of all, perhaps, was that both the paper and TV interviewers treated the subject seriously and with respect. For that, we thank them.

As we privately predicted, Jeff Hoyle's article on the medical evidence with respect to the fatal shot stirred up a hornet's nest of controversy. Since it's been a year since we printed any letters from our readers, we thought it might be of interest to print a couple in this issue. We hope you'll find the letters from Jack White and Jeff Hoyle as interesting as we did.

J. David Truby, whose article on the HSCA we printed last time around, again appears in this issue, in a new feature, "The Optimist's Corner."

IN THE NEWS

HSCA investigators were recently described as "ecstatic" over the discovery of tapes, documents and other materials gathered by the Dallas Police, but never turned over to the Warren Commission. The materials were in the possession of former Dallas Police Capt. Paul McCaghren, now a private investigator. Asked why he had sat on them for so long, McCaghren replied, "No one ever asked me." Among the materials are tapes reportedly of the Dallas Police radio dispatches at the time of JFK's assassination that are believed to be more complete than those the Warren Commission reviewed. Also reported to be among the materials are polygraph examinations given to certain Dallas police, including Sgt. Roy Vaughn. McCaghren testified before the HSCA on March 28.

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A March 30 AP story says James Earl Ray said he has made "positive identification" of a photograph of the man, "Raoul", whom he says set him up for the assassination of Rev. King. Ray said the photo was shown to him 2 or 3 months before, but he would not say who showed it to him. Ray's lawyer, Mark Lane, said he had not decided whether to turn the photograph over to the HSCA, or to a judge. Idea: why not both?

* * * * *

This month's biggest news - or non-news - is that the HSCA has issued its 10-page "interim report". As we expected, it says very little. Its main purpose was to fluff up Congress to continue its working budget until its mandate is up late this year, and in this it succeeded. Much of it is taken up with organizational charts, and graphs showing number of man/days travelled per month, and other such titillating trivia you'll never see in the National Enquirer. It makes for very dull reading. What's more, you can't get a copy. It was printed in an extremely limited edition. You can, however, get a photocopy by sending \$1.00 to: Assassination Information Bureau, 1322 18th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

* * * * *

In other exciting news this month, there has been, seemingly, a breakthrough in the Orlando Letelier-Ronni Moffit assassination case. Letelier had been the Defense and Foreign Minister under Salvador Allende's government, and was also a former ambassador to the U.S. While in exile from the current Pinochet junta Letelier and Ms. Moffit, his secretary, were assassinated when their car was bombed September 21, 1976, in Washington, D.C.

On April 8 of this year, two men, Michael Vernon Townley, 35, and Armando Fernandez Larios, 28, were expelled from Chile under severe pressure from the U.S. Justice and State Departments, and put on a plane for Miami, where they were arrested. Townley is an American expatriate who worked for DINA, the former name for the Chilean secret police, and has strong ties to anti-Castro Cuban exiles in the U.S., as does Fernandez. Both were members of the extreme right-wing Patria y Libertad in Chile, a group who had previously attempted a coup against Allende before the one that succeeded.

The trial, if indeed it ever is allowed to take place, should be most interesting to follow. The reason, of course, is that some of the same trails that lead through the ranks of the anti-Castro Cuban community, such as it is, may lead right back to Dallas on November 22, 1963.

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Meanwhile, for what it's worth, Yipster Times, in their March '78 issue, has linked the Larry Flynt assassination attempt with an alleged plot to assassinate President Carter, to the assassination of John F. Kennedy in Dallas. The alleged link is anti-Castro exile par excellence Orlando Bosch, called the "Mastermind" by YT. Paul Krassner, aging yippie and current publisher of HUSTLER, has been seeking documentation identifying soldiers of fortune Frank Fiorini, aka Sturgis, and Gerry Patrick Hemming as members of the JFK assassination team.

Interestingly, Hemming and Sturgis were recently employed by the Parabellum Corp., of Powder Springs, Ga. Powder Springs is 50 miles from Lawrenceville, where the attempt on Flynt's life took place. Parabellum is owned by a man named Mitchell Stuart Livingston Werbell, a former Colonel and notorious right-winger who has admitted being "close to the Nazis," according to YT. Werbell reportedly was sent home from Vietnam for atrocities. He is the inventor of the M-11 weapons system, and he demonstrated assassination devices to Lucien Conien of the DEA during the Nixon administration. During a tour of Guatemala he is said to have kidnapped native communists, murdered them, and dropped their bodies into the Gulf of Mexico from airplanes.

Col. Werbell is also a close associate of CIA agent Gordon Novel, who figured so prominently in the Garrison investigation, and who is now being held in the Umstead Hospital in Butner, N.C., a federal "mental" facility. Umstead is rumored to be heavily into behavior modification practices.

* * * * *

A former CIA finance officer, James B. Wilcott, testified to the HSCA recently that his colleagues told him that Lee Harvey Oswald was a CIA operative for the agency in Japan in the late 1950's. Wilcott, in a New York Times Service story on March 27, contended that his colleagues convinced him that Oswald had been recruited by the Agency to infiltrate the Soviet Union.

It's highly possible, even probable, that all this is true, but we think you should approach this particular story with caution, especially considering the source (N.Y. Times); it smacks of a set-up that can be struck down at an expedient time.

* * * * *

In the March-April issue of the AIB's CLANDESTINE AMERICA, Carl Oglesby speculates, in an article called "Legend of a Legend: The Epstein-Angleton Ploy", that "...if Legend (a reference to Ed Epstein's new book - Ed.) is itself a 'legend', what could it be hiding? Is it an attempt to scare the Russians? Or to deceive the American people? The best guess at AIB is that Oswald had been involved, from the CIA side, in a combined CIA-KGB operation of a most secret character, and that it was this operation which was placed in jeopardy when Oswald was made the patsy for the JFK hit: if the WC checked too hard into Oswald's background, the CIA's dirtiest and most painful secret - that of its combined operations with the KGB - would have been threatened with exposure."

We think this is nonsense, with all respect to Oglesby and AIB. A collaboration between the CIA and the KGB is shocking, but it is not unthinkable. What is unthinkable is that they would use a low-level bozo and patsy such as Oswald for such a mission. Is the AIB prepared to state, or even speculate, as to what such a mission might have been?

* * * * *

Scream-of-the-month: from U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings, April, 1977. The topic is LNG tankers.

"The cargo spheres have been tested for stresses and are designed not to crack or rupture for a period far beyond the expected lifetime of the ships. Environmentalists have expressed concern over spills of liquefied natural gas. Some

tests have been conducted in that area, and they indicate there is no great danger of explosion. If such a ship were torpedoed in wartime, though, it would probably disappear in short order."

We'll second that.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

...My only criticism is that Jeff Hoyle, in his article on the medical documents, has drawn an erroneous conclusion because he failed to consider all the possibilities related to the autopsy photos and x-rays. He makes no mention at all concerning the possibility (I should say probability) that the photos which have been examined by the various persons he mentions are forgeries.

Virtually all the responsible researchers I know have reached this conclusion. There are numerous points which prove this, but by far the strongest is this: The coat and shirt have bullet holes about 5½ inches down from the neck, with no holes in the collars, but the body in the photos has a bullet hole in the back of the neck, but no hole 5½ inches down in the back. We are certain the clothing is authentic, therefore the body pictured (whose face cannot be seen) must be the body of someone other than JFK. Anyone who can wade through Weisberg's Post Mortem carefully will come to this same conclusion.

To counteract the conclusion of Hoyle's article, I suggest you run a followup article considering the possibility of forgery of the autopsy photos.

Jack White
Fort Worth, Texas



Obviously if the medical evidence is not authentic, this really defeats much of my argument. I've always gone under the assumption that it was valid. I assumed if there was any doubt, Wecht would have been screaming about it when he saw what they did show him in '72.

Jack White's criticism deals with the location of the back wound in relation to the clothing. My article deals with the head shot and its source. Looking over the inventories of the medical evidence in Wilber's book, I found that 5 photographs (or, more specifically, black and white negatives) name specifically the face as being seen in that shot (#s 26, 27, 28, 40, 41). They are described as "head viewed from right and above to include part of the face, neck, shoulder and upper chest."

Weisberg seems to doubt a photo could show all of this (Post Mortem p. 148) but I'm sure you have seen average (profile) photos that include all of this and more.

White's comment that the face cannot be seen refers to photos of the back wound, not the head.

My point being, if the face can be seen, it's obvious the photos and findings, at least in reference to the head wound, are valid. The point is to find out just how much of the face can be seen. Seeing as Wecht is the only critic to have seen this material, maybe he could tell us.

Jeff Hoyle
Fall River, Mass.

THE OPTIMIST'S CORNER by J. David Truby

Here are some tidbits of truth from the latest in the JFK murder investigation.

Some members of the House Select Committee on Assassinations now know the truth about the conspiracy and this is causing real problems for the power group behind that crime and its coverup. They are fighting back hard.

The recent books by Epstein and McMillan about Lee Oswald and his wife, etc. are blatant coverup propaganda and disinformation. Both "authors" are intelligence operatives, and Epstein is a particularly dangerous man, i.e., people he interviews seem to end up dead very soon afterwards.

Sadly, I have now confirmed the reason Sen. Richard Schweiker stopped his official investigation into the Kennedy conspiracy is because some "very important people" told him his family would be wiped out if the Senator continued his investigation. Dick Schweiker got too near the truth. Now, he is a reborn reactionary and his family is safe.

By some secret agreement, the House Select Committee on Assassinations gave the CIA and the FBI "security approval" of all staff, including investigators. This means if the CIA and FBI don't want someone to work for the Committee they can veto that person on "National Security" grounds. Sound familiar?

After the way the CIA and the FBI misled, lied to and destroyed evidence with the Warren Commission, these two outfits should not be allowed anywhere near the Committee. As is, the hungry and wild wolves are again loose in our chicken coop.

Several excellent investigators have resigned from the Committee recently because the Committee's top counsel, Robert Blakey, reportedly restricted their research, telling them to steer away from the conspiracy aspects.

That smacks of Son of Coverup. It is exactly how the Warren Commission mixed its whitewash -- ignore anything conspiratorial, then work toward a magical case against the "lone nut." I have tried to get answers to this very serious charge from Mr. Blakey. To date, I've had no fitting response.

Why did the NEW YORK TIMES, WASHINGTON POST, NEWSWEEK, TIME, et al attack and vilify the Committee's former top counsel, the honest and respected Richard A. Sprague, while not uttering one word - favorable or otherwise - about Robert Blakey?

Sprague is an honest and tough prosecutor. He meant business and was getting to the truth, doing his job. The power people had to get rid of him and get their own man in there. Exit Sprague; enter Blakey.

Blakey is a handpicked puppet of the power people. These top people also have the power and contacts to direct what the TIMES, NEWSWEEK, POST, TIME and other major media will report on certain key issues. The JFK case is one of these key issues.

These major media are almost hysterical and totally universal in their support of the official findings. They regard any dissent, no matter how scholarly, legal and logical as the blatherings of kooks. That, my friends, is part of the coverup -- our controlled "free" press.

There is one item I'm not sure I ought to publicize. But, I do want this on the record -- now. I feel very strongly that a key witness, a man who was almost certainly a member of the actual assassination team, is about to be another "suicide" victim of the power group.

This man was recently incarcerated in the "mental wing" of a federal institution. Repeated attempts to get Committee investigators to rescue or least to interview this man seem to fall on deaf ears. Yet, it is almost certain this man was a part of the actual hit team.

This man's case is too deadly close to that of another dead key witness in the JFK conspiracy. George deMohrenschildt, the man who "babysat" Oswald for the CIA, was put in a mental ward for 56 days of brainwashing last year, then released. Three months later he was "suicided" by power group hit men.

The same thing is going to happen to this other witness.

THE PRESIDENT'S FATAL WOUND by Jeffrey P. Hoyle

[author's note: the following was suggested as a followup article to the March "Analysis..." of the head shot (GKG, Vol. 2 No. 1). Its purpose is to clarify as well as expand my position in that essay.]

Reconstruction

The President is leaning forward, head angled slightly downward, and turned left of center when the fatal bullet strikes. It enters high and to the right, an almost glancing blow to the right side of the turned head. As the bullet pushes through the skull, a forward force is exerted. Upon the exploding exit, the effects of the tangential blow can be seen by the leftward spin of the head in the forward-moving limousine.

The actual exploding of the skull cannot be ruled out as a contributing factor to the left, backward movement of the President's body. A high velocity bullet will produce shock waves and build a great pressure inside the skull. The results of this are obvious in the Zapruder film, as spray can be seen in all directions at Z-313, the force being so great that debris is thrown as much as 35 feet ahead of the limousine, and a large, gaping wound remains.

Newton's Laws

Sir Isaac Newton's three laws of motion can all be applied to this half-second span.

First Law: A body at rest remains at rest and a body in motion continues to move at a constant speed along a straight line unless, in either case, the body is acted upon by an outside force. Applied - With only non-fatal wounds

inflicted prior to Z-313, the President's body would have continued in his reaction to those wounds until he slumped to the floor, or was pulled down in the seat by Mrs. Kennedy. That is, until acted upon by an outside force.

Second Law: An outside force acting on a body causes the body to accelerate in the direction of the line of force. Applied - The bullet pushing through the skull creates a forward motion.

The Third Law: For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. Applied - The expenditure of force from the forward-moving bullet to the head, coupled with the spinning effect of the glancing blow, as well as the opposite force of the exiting matter, sends the President in a direction contrary to the original force.

The point seems to be clear that it is not as simple as some would have you believe. A body will not always continue in a direct line with the line of force; the way the force strikes has to be accounted for. Two examples are (1) a forward-moving baseball bat often sends the ball to the rear, opposite direction of the force, due to the off-center blow and the spin. (2) a billiard ball when struck off-center may move in a direction other than the forward-moving cue stick.

Other Arguments

In the March GKG, some of the circumstantial evidence used to support a frontal head shot was discussed. Here are some additional arguments.

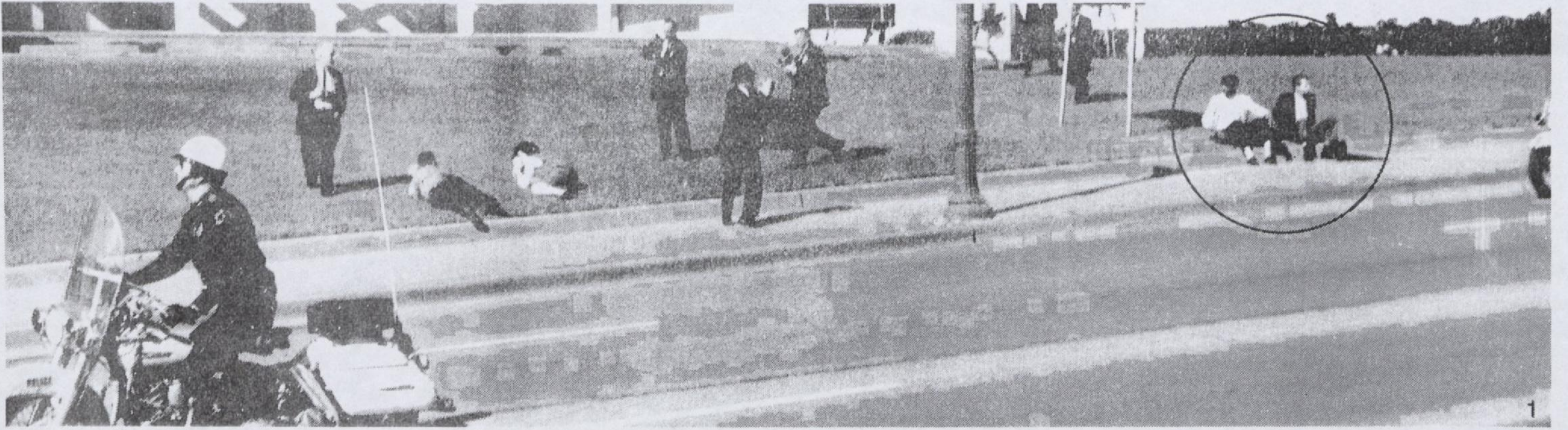
Critics often point to the admission note of Parkland doctor Robert McClelland as proof of a left temple wound. This note states in part "...cause of death was due to massive head and brain injury from a gunshot wound of the left temple." (Emphasis added).

It should be noted that Harold Weisberg asked Dr. McClelland about this and was told it had been a mistake. How could such a mistake have been made? According to McClelland, it may have been a spot of splattered blood. The spot had not been wiped or examined by the doctor. If such a wound did exist, where was the source? Was someone firing from the other side of Dealey Plaza? And why hadn't this wound shown up in the x-rays and photographs of the skull taken during the autopsy?

It has also been reported that the photos do show a loose flap of skin on the left side of the back of the President's head. Some suggest this is a wound of exit from a shot fired from the right front. Dr. Cyril Wecht has examined this photograph and contends the wound is too small to have resulted from the exit of a whole bullet.

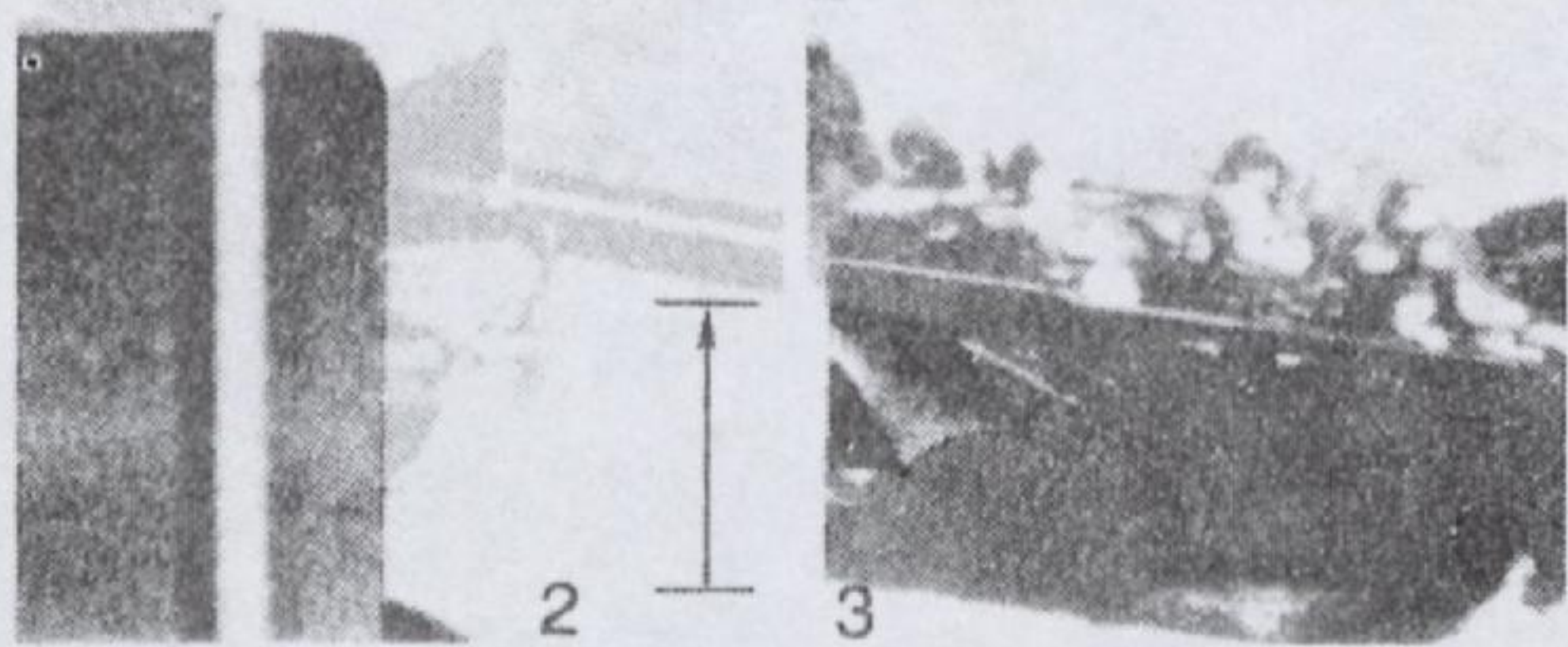
When the skull is struck by a bullet of high velocity, bone is fragmented, and these fragments become secondary missiles contributing to the damage. The size of this "small flap" suggests it was a fragment wound.

In 1968 the Clark Panel reported a gray-brown rectangular structure measuring approximately 13 X 20 mm located in the left superior portion of the brain. They could not determine its identity. Dr. Wecht (continued on page 10)

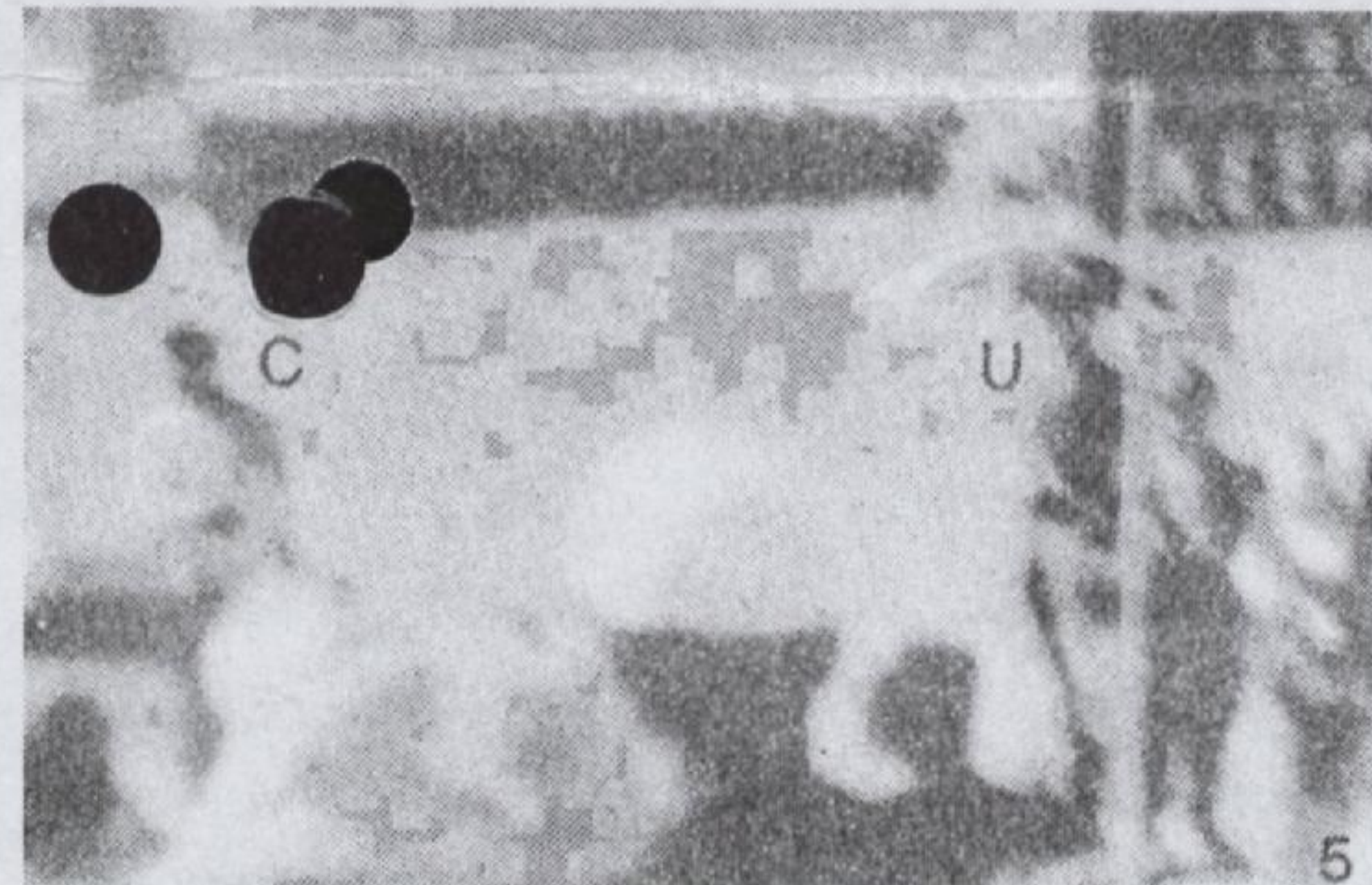


1. Circled in this photo taken by Dick Bothun of Fort Worth just a few seconds after the fatal shots are two unknown men known to assassination researchers as the "umbrella man" and the "Cuban".

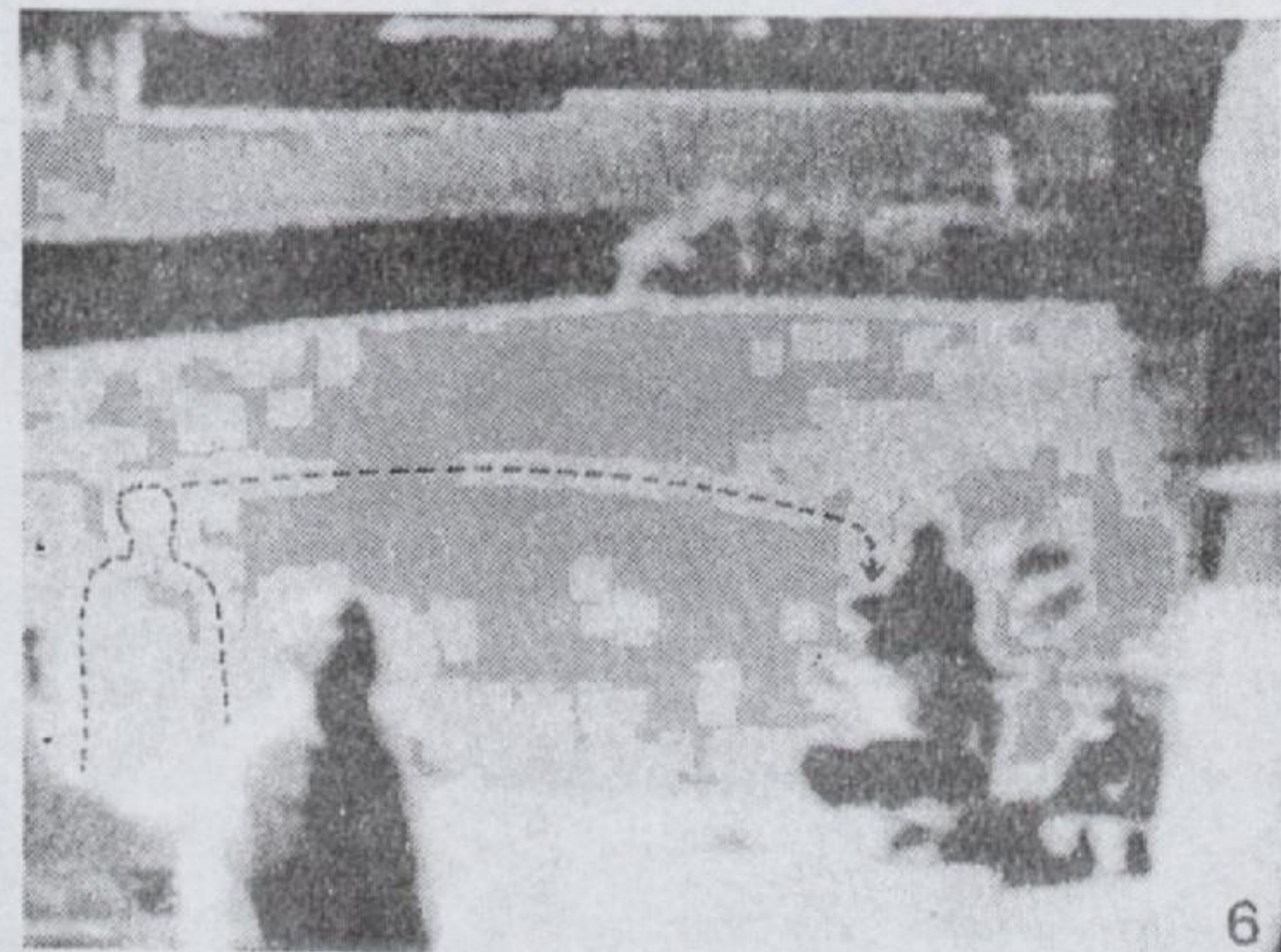
The "umbrella man" and the "Cuban," two of President Kennedy's assassins?



2, 3 & 4. This sequence from the Zapruder film shows the raising of the umbrella and the raising of the Cuban's hand immediately after the first shot.



5. Seen opposite from Zapruder, the Cuban and the umbrella man are ten feet apart as the first shot strikes Kennedy. Note the Cuban's right hand at his side, and the umbrella at the bottom edge of the sign. A second later, the Cuban is frantically waving, and the umbrella is raised halfway up the sign.



6. Immediately after the shots, the man closes his umbrella and sits down. The Cuban walks over and sits down beside him.



7. An enlargement from the Bothun picture shows the umbrella man to have dark wavy hair and neat attire. The Cuban's face appears to be Latin or Negroid, and possibly he has on a cap or beret.

The suspicious actions of two unknown men in Dealey Plaza during the minutes surrounding the Kennedy assassination have long been a puzzle to JFK researchers. Of the more than 500 persons witnessing the shooting, these two are among the few never identified. No records exist to show that the FBI or Warren Commission even tried to identify them.

Numerous cameras that November 22 captured them on film, and researchers have dubbed them the "umbrella man" and the "Cuban".

On that bright sunshiny afternoon only one person in Dealey Plaza had an open umbrella, and it was open for only about ten seconds. As the president's limousine approached, he opened the umbrella. The car drew abreast of the umbrella man as the first shot struck the president. The man then raised the parasol two feet higher and twirled it.

Many researchers believe this was a signal to gunmen that the first shot was not fatal and more shots would be needed.

Other researchers contend the umbrella concealed a weapon which fired a paralyzing dart into the president's throat, making him an easy target for the guns. (Don't scoff; in

recent Senate hearings, it was revealed that the CIA does have an umbrella which fires paralyzing darts!)

Standing at the curb ten feet from the umbrella man was a Latin-looking man, arms at side. Immediately after the first shot, he thrust his right arm high in the air and waved it rapidly.

These two men were the closest of all spectators to the point where the first shot struck. Seconds after the shots, the umbrella man sat down on the curb, and the "Cuban" came over and sat down beside him, and the two seemed to converse calmly while other spectators fell to the ground or ran up the grassy knoll where the shots seemed to originate.

Then, the Cuban apparently produced a radio "walkie-talkie" transmitter and spoke into it briefly! After sitting a few seconds together, the two strolled away in opposite directions, with the Cuban tucking the radio transmitter into his hip pocket, and the umbrella man calmly leaving the scene with his folded umbrella.

If these two unidentified men were not part of the assassination team, they should come forward, identify themselves, and explain their suspicious actions.



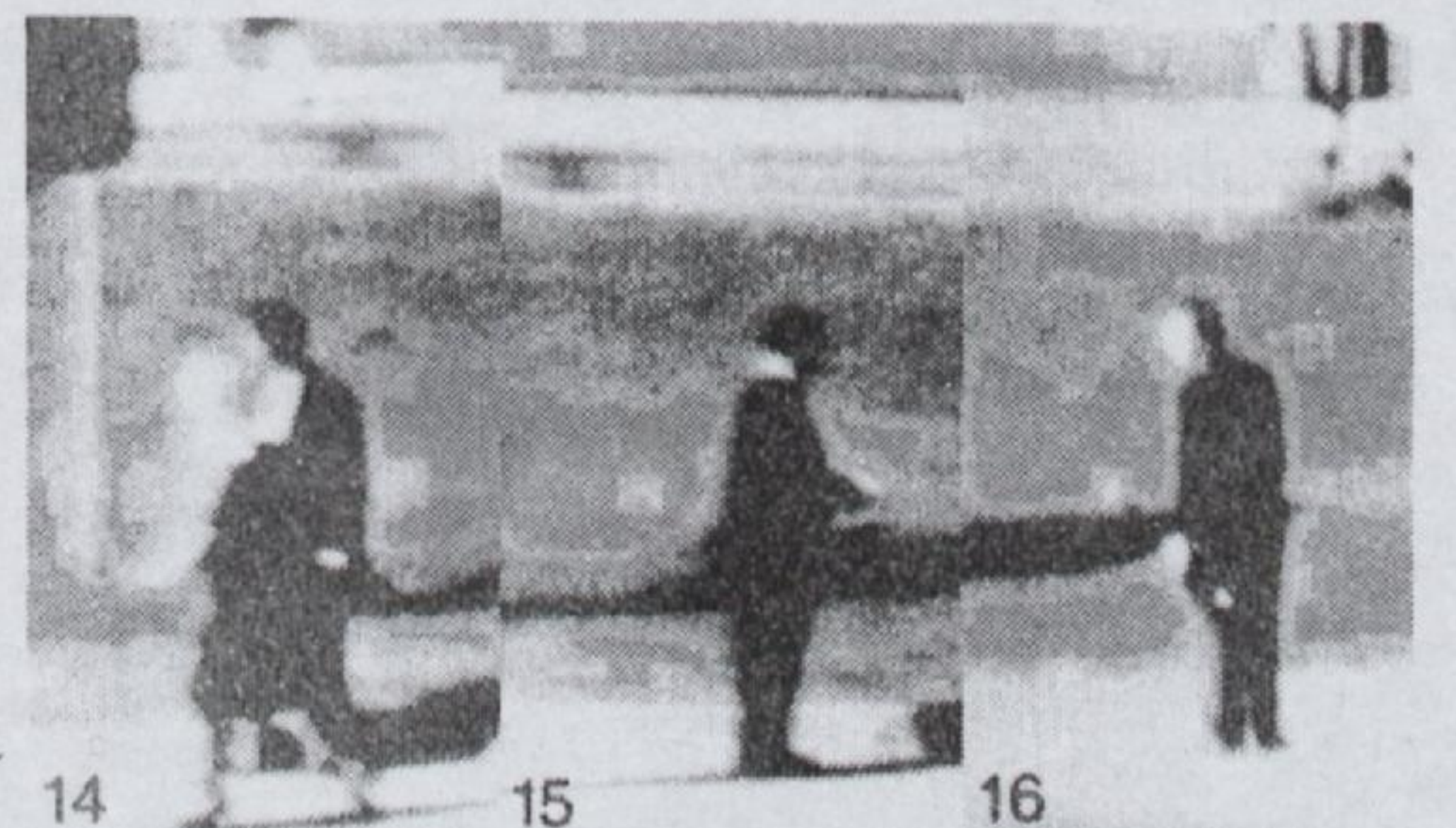
8. Moments later the Cuban briefly holds a walkie-talkie to his mouth. The umbrella man has now hidden the umbrella.



9. As the Cuban walks away, he tucks the radio away in his hip pocket or rear of pants.



10, 11, 12, 13. The Cuban strides calmly away westward as other spectators dash up the grassy knoll.



14, 15, 16. The umbrella man pauses, then disappears eastward. Neither was ever identified by authorities.

also observed this object, but the autopsy surgeons never mentioned it. What that object is, is open to question. Could it be a fragment? Remains of a hemorrhage? A tumor, possibly responsible for the President's rumored Addison's Disease?

Speculation on this point is endless, and fruitless. The matter can only be settled when the brain, preserved in the Archives, is examined and sectioned by a qualified forensic pathologist, something that has been denied to date.

Many critics continue to ask "are the photos and x-rays in the Archives forgeries?" This leads me to ask why the conspirators would leave evidence in their forgeries that would lead to questions of conspiracy. Wouldn't it have been just as easy to forge a clear-cut, no question, shot from the rear?

One way to clear up this matter has been suggested by Fred T. Newcomb and Perry Adams (Skeptic, Special Issue #9, p. 61): allow the Parkland doctors to examine the autopsy materials and comment publicly on their findings. Surely they would recall if the x-rays and photographs coincide with what they observed in Dallas on November 22, 1963.

Conclusion

Careful examination of the available evidence, with consideration given to Newton's three laws of motion, still leads this author to conclude that the fatal bullet was fired from above and behind the President. This conclusion does not mean a rejection of the conspiracy "theory". One shot from the rear caused the head wound, another the back wound. A third shot from the rear caused Governor Connally's injuries. A fourth wounded innocent bystander James Tague. Four shots from the rear, with the throat wound still left unaccounted for, means conspiracy.

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DEALEY PLAZA BREAKDOWN #5: AN EXCERPT FROM A JACK RUBY JAIL INTERVIEW

RUBY: "...Everything pertaining to what's happening has never come to the surface. The world will never know the true facts of what occurred, my motives. Uh, in other words, I'm the only person in the background that knows the truth pertaining to everything relating to my testimony."

Q: "Do you think it will ever come out?"

RUBY: "No, because, unfortunately, the, uh, people who had so much to gain, and had such material motive for putting me in the position I'm in, will never let the true facts come aboveboard to the, to the world."

Q: "Are these people in very high positions?"

RUBY: "Yes."

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THE ITEK/CBS JFK FILM ANALYSIS: DID ITEK STACK THE DECK? by J.W. Burke, Jr.

The author recently was able to obtain a copy of a paper by Francis Corbett of Itek Corporation, entitled John F. Kennedy Assassination Film Analysis. The paper is the end result of a study done for CBS a couple of years ago. The same paper was also presented, in a slightly different form, at a seminar on Optics in Law Enforcement in Reston, Virginia in April of 1977. Readers will recall that Itek did a similar study for Time-Life 11 years ago. In the new study, Itek's film analysis is limited to the Zapruder and Hughes films.

Careful study of the Corbett paper raises more than a few doubts as to whether Itek or CBS sincerely wanted an unbiased and complete analysis done. First, let's take a look at the paper's "Summary of the Results and Conclusion", which consists of nine major points. Then we will examine the conclusions to see if they can withstand scrutiny.

"These image methods applied to the Zapruder and Hughes films produced the following results.

1. Motion of an object or person was detected in the sixth-floor corner window of the Texas School Book Depository.
2. Identification of this object was not possible despite enhancement techniques applied to the imagery. No other motions or evidence indicating the presence of another person(s) in other sixth-floor windows visible in the Hughes film were found.
3. No evidence could be found that would indicate that President Kennedy was struck before the Stemmons Freeway sign blocked Zapruder's view.
4. President Kennedy was first wounded most probably after frame 212 and before frame 223.
5. The positions of President Kennedy and Governor Connally in the car at about 1-3/4 seconds before (i.e. frame 186 vicinity) President Kennedy was struck by a bullet (i.e. frame 218 vicinity) and the locations of their wounds are consistent with the hypothesis that both were struck by a single bullet traveling on a trajectory from the sixth-floor corner window of the Texas School Book Depository.
6. Governor Connally begins a rapid and seemingly involuntary change in physical appearance at about Zapruder frame 225. Part of this change (hand and arm movement) is similar to President Kennedy's voluntary reaction (hand and arm movement) to a wound, first observed at frame 224. Governor

Connally's hand movement lags behind President Kennedy's by about two frames, or about 1/9 of a second.

7. All major particles ejected from the President's head at frame 313 travel in a forward direction and his head moves forward about 2.3 inches between frames 312 and 313, under the impact of the blow.
8. The motions of Mrs. Kennedy and the President immediately after frame 313 indicate that Mrs. Kennedy contributed to or caused the backward motion of the President after frame 313.
9. No evidence of gunmen purported to be either on the grassy knoll or behind the stockade fence was found."

CRITIQUE

Consideration of points 1 and 2, above, taken together, provides our first example of Itek's stacking the deck. Page 2 of the study shows 6 selected frames from the Hughes film, and the same 6 frames, computer-processed with the "Oswald window" enlarged to fill the frame. The message is clear enough that something, or someone, was moving in that window just prior to the assassination. No mention, however, is made of an object that can be seen on the right side of the double window immediately to the left of the window in question. In some books, notably Thompson's Six Seconds in Dallas, many more frames from the Hughes film are presented, and they show an object that looks like a human form, and appears to change position. Is it merely another coincidence that Itek chose frames in which this object is less apparent? The only way the second sentence of Point 2 can be true is if Itek chose not to look.

Itek again apparently chose not to look very far for their evidence in point 3. As a matter of fact, Itek could not have been unaware of several studies which are strongly supportive of an "early hit", that is, before the limousine passed behind the Stemmons sign. A careful study called "Photographic Evidence and the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy", by Don Olson and Ralph S. Turner, appeared in the October 1971 issue of the Journal of Forensic Sciences. In it, the authors (the former was head of the Physics Department at the University of California at Berkeley; the latter a member of the faculty of the School of Criminal Justice at Michigan State) present a convincing case, based mainly upon interpretation of the photographic evidence, for just such an "early hit". The authors relied heavily upon the earlier Time-Life study, and the footnotes indicate that the authors also corresponded with Howard Sprague, then Itek's vice-president. So Itek had to have been aware of the Olson-Turner study, at least. Itek officials have also had dealings, on several occasions, with Robert Cutler, who has written several books which indicate an early hit; 76 Seconds in Dealey Plaza is merely the latest in a line of books by Cutler that strongly indicate the President was reacting to a wound prior to the limousine's disappearance behind the Stemmons

sign. So Itek cannot plead "not guilty" due to ignorance of these and other studies; they must, however, enter a plea of "guilty" for prevarication. And having disposed of Point 3, we can toss Point 4 out the window also.

Point 5 is a ragged attempt to resurrect the Single Bullet Theory, thought by most experts and critics to have died a lingering death years ago. It hardly seems necessary to try and refute the notorious SBT at this late date; Mr. Specter's bastard child was flogged to death years ago by more critics than you could shake a stick at. And now Itek has exhumed the corpse for another tour of duty. According to Itek, new life has been breathed into the rotting corpse by their earth-shaking discovery that Governor Connally was sitting further into the interior of the car than had been previously thought. All of which means exactly nothing. Rest assured that, no matter how much adjusting and contriving is done to make the shot possible horizontally, nothing can make the shot possible because of the vertical angle involved. Perhaps in a later study, Itek will find evidence that the President was sitting on two Dallas telephone directories, or that the Governor was sitting on the floor. At any rate, it's been demonstrated that any shot with a horizontal angle of less than 28 degrees can not pass through the President's neck without first striking the spinal column, something that CE 399 obviously could not have done, judging from its pristine, or near-pristine, condition.

Curiously, Itek picked a frame almost two seconds before the frame they say the first shot occurred at to demonstrate that the Single Bullet Theory is tenable. By some coincidence, this frame, Z-186, is the same one that R.B. Cutler, in his book Two Flightpaths: Evidence of Conspiracy, used in 1971 to test the SBT's feasibility at an early frame. At this frame, as it is in all frames, the Single Bullet Theory is impossible. Reproductions of the Cutler '71 test and the Itek '77 'proof' of SBT's possibility appear as Figures 1 and 2 at the end of this article.

In a further attempt to buttress the SBT Itek, in Point 6, claims to have found a remarkable similarity between JFK's "voluntary" (sic) hand and arm movement in reaction to a wound, and Connally's involuntary hand and arm movement in reaction to a wound 1/9 of a second later. So far as can be determined from Itek's study, the only thing "similar" about these two movements is that they are both hand and arm movements, which is not surprising in view of the fact that, with the exception of the head, the hand and arm are the only parts of the body visible above the side of the limousine that can be moved to any appreciable degree!

The assertion in Point 7 that the head moves forward about 2.3 inches between Z-312 and Z-313 is, as far as can be determined, correct, and Itek's best of a rather poor lot. The other assertion, that all the major particles are ejected in a forward direction is difficult to test, as Itek has not provided criteria for telling a major particle from a minor one.

The problem with Point 8, in the author's opinion, is that Itek has not allowed any time for Mrs. Kennedy to react to the shot at Z-313 before she begins her pushing action. As a matter of fact, Itek seems to be saying that the pushing actually begins before the shot strikes, and possibly before the shot is fired. Why would Mrs. Kennedy react to a shot before it was fired?

Point 9 is just plain silly. Itek's report gives no indication whatsoever that they even looked at any films that depicted the grassy knoll, much less studied them for signs of gunmen or conspirators. The possible exception is the final frames of Zapruder's film; if Itek studied these frames in search of gunmen, the report gives us no indication of it. All we have is Itek's baseless assertion that there is nothing there, not to worry.

CONCLUSION

For reasons perhaps known only to themselves and CBS, Itek made their film study with a rather badly stacked deck - a set of predetermined conclusions. This is a too-familiar story. The best thing that can be said about the Itek study is that they fudged a bit. The worst thing that can be said about them is that they lied to CBS, who lied to the public, and both are guilty of the worst kind of obfuscation of the truth. Depending on your inclination, you can take your pick. It's not a very nice choice.

FIGURE 1: ITEK '77

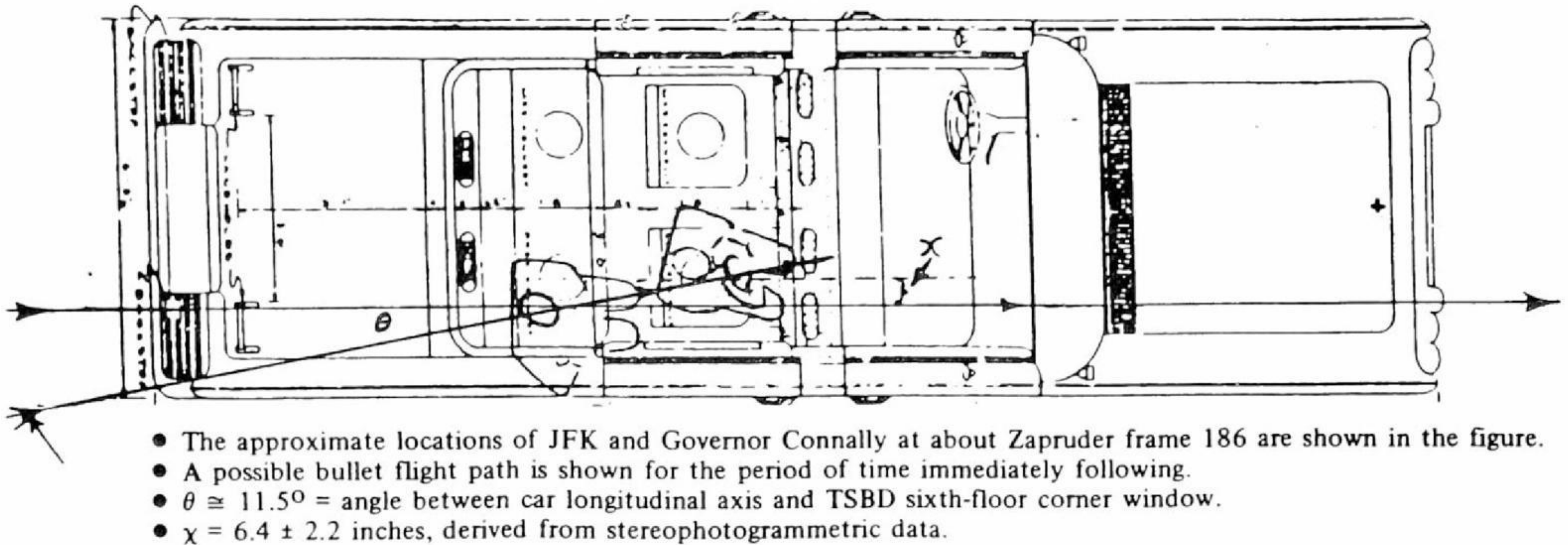


Fig. 6. Secret Service scale drawing of the Presidential limousine.

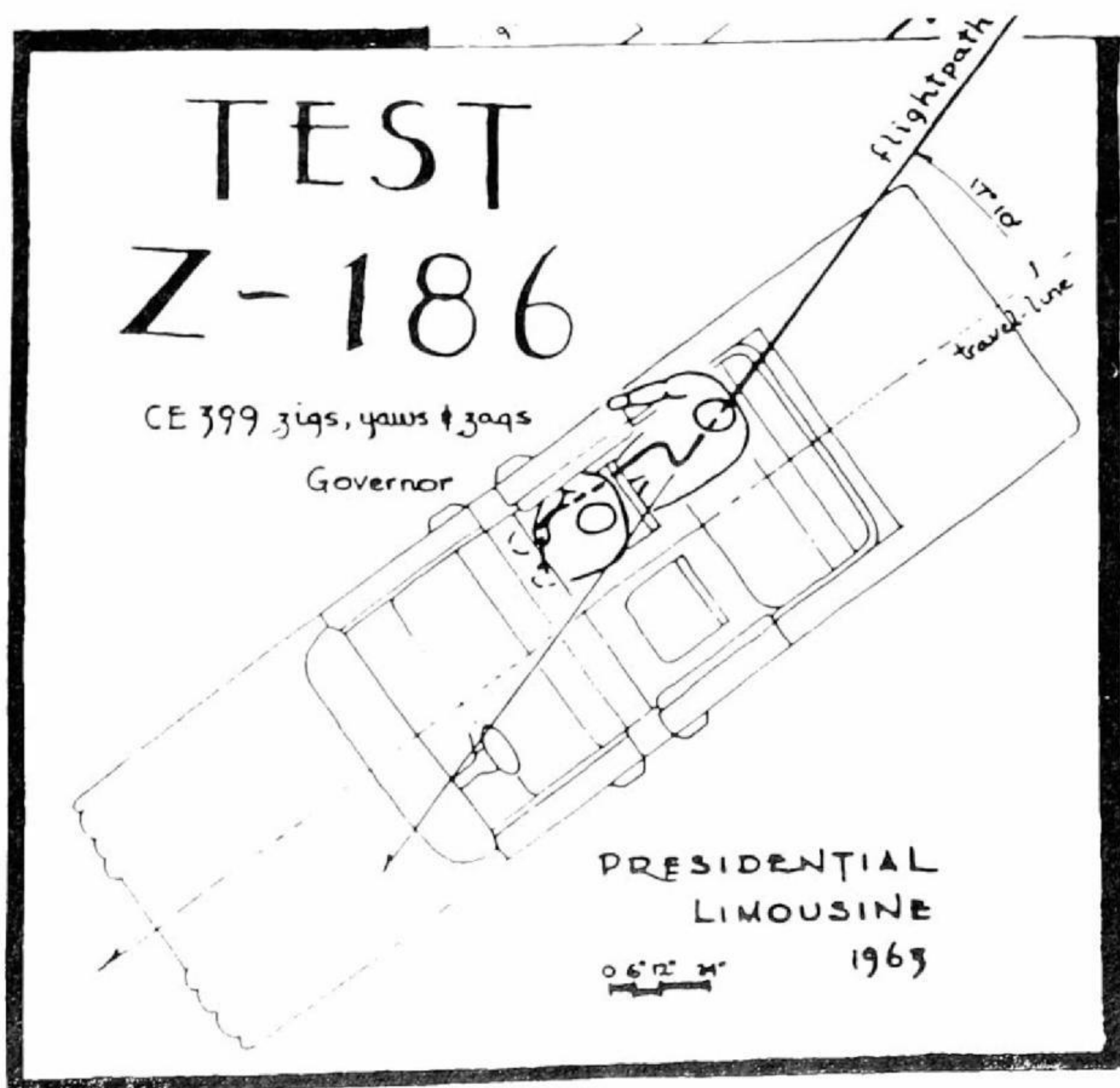


FIGURE 2: CUTLER '71

BOOK REVIEWS: MORE HITS YOU MISSED by J.W. Burke, Jr.

MEDICOLEGAL INVESTIGATION OF THE PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY MURDER BY CHARLES G. WILBER, Ph.D.; SPRINGFIELD, ILL.: CHARLES C. THOMAS, 1978, 318 PAGES, \$14.50.

Dr. Wilber, the Deputy Coroner of Larimer Co., Colorado, has come up with a "heavy". Even the thickness of the paper stock says "weighty" and "important." As the book is aimed primarily at practitioners and students of criminology and forensics, it's doubtful this book will find a wide readership, even among the researchers, which is a shame, since Dr. Wilber has pretty well demolished the manner in which the autopsy and medical evidence was handled.

MYTH, FANTASY OR FACT BY JACOB KARMIN; NEW YORK: VANTAGE PRESS, 1977, 159 PAGES, \$5.50.

The author mixes a bit of all three in his psychosocial portrayal of the 'assassin', Lee Oswald. Karmin studies LHO's Russian years in a search for KGB influence that might have led to Oswald's killing Kennedy. He overlooks one thing, though: the evidence shows Oswald didn't kill anyone. The flap tells us the author is a pharmacist, enjoys cards and bocci, and walks five miles each morning. Too bad he didn't go the extra mile this time.

MARINA AND LEE BY PRISCILLA JOHNSON McMILLAN; NEW YORK: BANTAM BOOKS, 1978, 690 PAGES, \$2.75.

At last in paperback! Prissy McMillan's opus took her some 14 years to complete. Judging what I was able to stomach, she should have taken up needle-point instead. Cute pictures of Marina and the kids. Nice purple foil letters on the cover. Forget it.

WOUND ANALYSIS BY JEFFREY P. HOYLE; FALL RIVER, MA.: THE AUTHOR, 1978, 42 PAGES, ILLUSTRATED, \$7.00.

According to Hoyle, the fatal JFK head shot came from somewhere behind and somewhat to the right of the President, and he's pretty convincing in his arguments. He plans to supplement the book later, which is good. See the ad which is included in most copies of this issue for further details.

OPERATION MIND CONTROL BY WALTER BOWART; ISLE OF MAN, U.K.: FONTANA BOOKS, 1978, 317 PAGES. FOREWORD BY RICHARD CONDON. NEW YORK: DELL BOOKS, 1978, 317 PAGES. FONTANA EDITION \$2.75. NO FOREWORD IN DELL EDITION. DELL EDITION PRICE UNKNOWN.

This is the scariest and best-documented book about mind control and its history to come down the pike yet. The subtitle is "The CIA's Plot Against America", and he ain't just whistling dixie. We urge you to buy this one and read it soon. By the way, a little bird told us that the CIA's library was one of the very first to order a copy of both editions! Highly recommended!

SNAP, CRACKLE, AND POPULAR TASTE BY JEFFREY SCHRANK; NEW YORK: DELTA BOOKS, 1977, 192 PAGES, \$2.95.

Are the thousands of products on grocery shelves real choices for us, or are they really "pseudo-choices"? What is a "weasel word"? Find out. Recommended.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RATE INCREASE - Because of high overseas rates, we are being forced to raise the rate for overseas airmail subscriptions to \$8.00. As the Post Office has not announced if their proposed rate increase will affect classes other than first, other rates will not be raised at this time.

JUST PUBLISHED - 8-page supplement to Harry Irwin's 1975 bibliography of books, newspaper and magazine articles, TV programs, etc. relating to the assassination of JFK, published in English outside the U.S. This includes the U.K., Australia, and the U.S.S.R. Both the original 19-page booklet and the supplement were co-authored by Hazel Hale, and the cost of the bibliography and supplement is \$4.00 U.S. Irwin also has available cassette recordings (audio) of two recent BBC-TV programs on the JFK and King assassinations which are good. Price of each cassette is \$4.00. We suggest you send some extra if you desire airmail. Harry Irwin, 32 Ravensdene Crescent, Ravenhill, Belfast BT6 ODB, IRELAND.

KENNEDY COLLECTORS - We have books, tapes, and other items relating to the JFK assassination. Send for free list. M & A Bookdealers, P.O. Box 1962, Waco, Texas 76703.

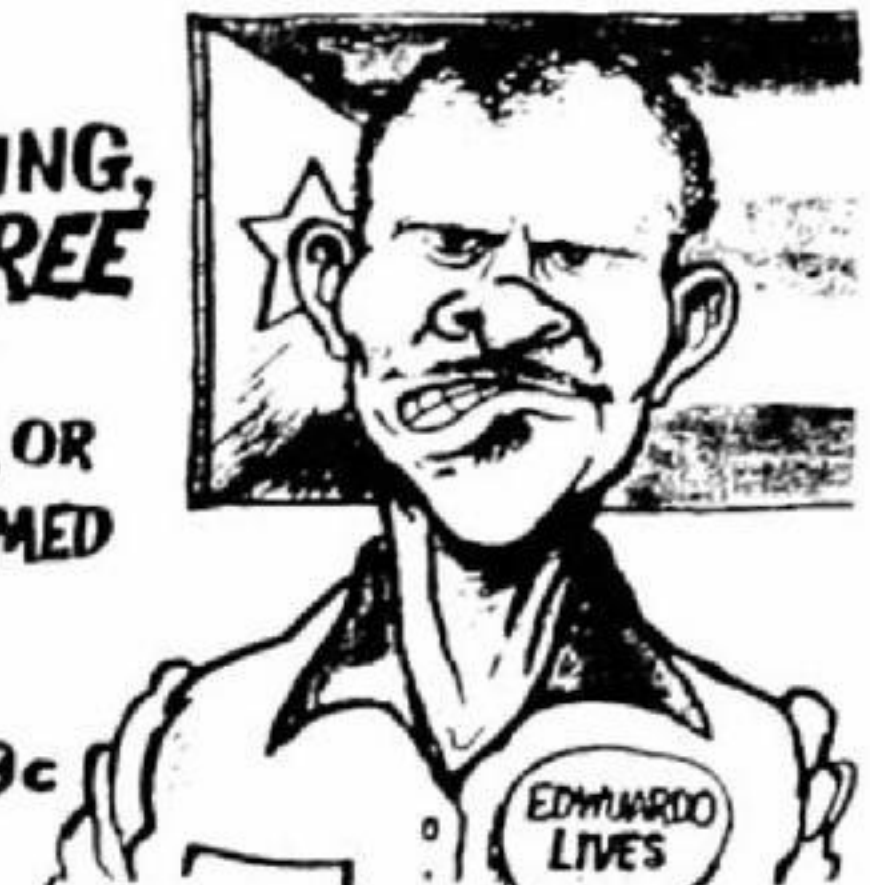
NEW QUARTERLY - Conspiracies Unlimited, \$2.00 per year. For sample and information, write P.O. Box 3085, St. Paul, Minn. 55165.

CATTLE MUTE NEWSLETTER - Stigmata, published by Tom Adams, Project Stigma, P.O. Box 1094, Paris, TX. 75460. \$1.00 per issue in advance. Project Stigma represents an on-going probe into the relentless wave of animal mutilations and mutilation deaths, and is an attempt to coordinate and assist in information-gathering activities on the part of the pertinent and responsible investigative agencies and individuals.

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